

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An aqueous precursor for composition for forming a superabsorbent polymer for coating cellulosic articles comprising:
 - 1) an aqueous solution of water-soluble superabsorbent polymer precursor;
 - 2) a binder; and
 - 3) an optional viscosity modifying agent;
wherein said composition is autocatalytic.
2. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the viscosity of said aqueous precursor composition is less than about 500 centipoise at 20° C.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Original) The composition according to claim 2, wherein the viscosity of said aqueous precursor composition is less than about 50 centipoise at 20° C.
5. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said aqueous precursor composition has a shelf-life of between about 6 to about 12 months.
6. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said water-soluble superabsorbent polymer precursor is a water-soluble polyacrylate.
7. (Original) The composition of claim 6, wherein said water-soluble superabsorbent polymer precursor is in its anionic form as a salt of a corresponding alkali or alkali metal salt.

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8. (Original) The composition of claim 1, further comprising a lubricant.
9. (Original) The composition of claim 6, wherein said aqueous precursor composition comprises between about 30 to about 95 percent by weight of said water-soluble polyacrylate.
10. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 8, wherein said aqueous precursor composition comprises between greater than 0 about to about 20 percent by weight of said lubricant.
11. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said binder is a polyurethane.
12. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said aqueous precursor composition comprises between about 1 to about 30 percent by weight of said binder.
13. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said viscosity modifying agent is an aqueous polyacrylamide solution.
14. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said aqueous precursor composition comprises between about 0 to about 5 percent by weight of said viscosity modifying agent.
15. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said aqueous precursor composition further comprises an optical brightener.

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16. (Currently Amended) An article having a superabsorbent polymer comprising:

- a) [[an]] a cellulosic article;
- b) an aqueous precursor composition applied to said article; said aqueous composition comprising:

- 1) an aqueous solution of a water-soluble superabsorbent polymer precursor;

- 2) a binder; and

- 3) an optional viscosity modifying agent;

wherein the viscosity of said aqueous precursor composition is under about 500 centipoise at 20°C, wherein said aqueous precursor composition is cured on said article to form said superabsorbent polymer on said article; wherein said composition is autocatalytic.

17. (Original) The article according to claim 16, wherein said article is selected from the group of articles consisting of tapes, mats, fabrics, laminates, scrims, wood and paper products, and construction materials.

18. (Original) The article according to claim 17, wherein said article is a cellulosic material.

19. (Original) The article according to claim 16, wherein said article is selected from the group consisting of disposable diapers, sanitary napkins, bandages, wound care products, surgical pads, drapes, gowns, paper towels, multiple use towels, toilet paper, facial tissue towels, sheets and personal hygiene products,

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20. (Original) The article according to claim 16, wherein said superabsorbent polymer absorbs water when immersed in an aqueous environment and desorbs said water when said coating is dried.
21. (Original) The article according to claim 16, wherein said superabsorbent polymer absorbs up to about 800 times its initial dry weight in water when immersed in an aqueous environment and desorbs said water when said coating is dried.
22. (Canceled)
23. (Original) The article according to claim 16, wherein the viscosity of said aqueous precursor composition is less than about 50 centipoise at 20° C.
24. (Original) The article according to claim 16, wherein said aqueous precursor composition further comprises an optical brightener.
25. (Original) The article according to claim 16, wherein said aqueous precursor composition has a shelf-life of between about 6 to about 12 months.
26. (Original) The article according to claim 16, wherein said water-soluble superabsorbent polymer precursor is a water-soluble polyacrylate.
27. (Original) The article according to claim 26, wherein said water-soluble superabsorbent polymer precursor is in its anionic form as a salt of a corresponding alkali or alkali metal salt.
28. (Original) The article according to claim 16, wherein said aqueous precursor composition further comprises a lubricant.

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29. (Original) The composition of claim 28, wherein said aqueous precursor composition comprises between about 30 to about 95 percent by weight of said water-soluble polyacrylate.

30. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 28, wherein said aqueous precursor composition comprises between greater than about 0 to about 20 percent by weight of said lubricant.

31. (Original) The composition of claim 16, wherein said binder is a polyurethane.

32. (Original) The composition of claim 16, wherein said aqueous precursor composition comprises between about 1 to about 30 percent by weight of said binder.

33. (Original) The composition of claim 16, wherein said viscosity modifying agent is an aqueous polyacrylamide solution.

34. (Original) The composition of claim 16, wherein said aqueous precursor composition comprises between about 0 to about 5 percent by weight of said viscosity modifying agent.

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